

1     What is claimed is:

2           1.     A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

3                 a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a  
4     pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable  
5     of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole  
6     member,

7                 said hub member having an upper portion and a lower  
8     portion,

9                 a band secured about a periphery of said hub member between  
10    said upper and lower portions,

11                and a plurality of brackets secured to said band and hub  
12    member which are structured to pivotally receive an end of a  
13    strut member of the umbrella frame.

14           2.     A hub assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said hub  
15    member further includes a channel formed generally in said upper  
16    portion thereof, said channel being defined by at least a lower  
17    ledge extending about a periphery of said hub member, and  
18    wherein said band is secured to said hub member about said  
19    channel.

20           3.     A hub assembly as recited in claim 2, wherein said  
21    channel has a height dimension that is sized to correspond  
22    generally with a height dimension of said brackets.

23           4.     A hub assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said hub  
24    member includes a waist portion, said waist portion being of  
25    smaller diameter than said upper and lower portions.

1           5. A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

2           a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a  
3 pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable  
4 of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole  
5 member,

6           said hub member having an upper portion and a lower  
7 portion,

8           said upper and lower portions being separate from one  
9 another,

10          said upper and lower portions collectively forming a  
11 channel between them in an assembled orientation, said channel  
12 being defined by at least one ledge extending about a periphery  
13 of said hub member, and

14          a plurality of brackets secured to said hub member for  
15 pivotally receiving an end of a strut member of the umbrella  
16 frame.

17          6. A hub assembly as recited in claim 5 further comprising  
18 a band secured about said channel of said hub member with said  
19 brackets secured to said band and hub member.

20           7. A hub assembly for an umbrella frame comprising:

21           a hub member having a central aperture sized to receive a  
22 pole member of the umbrella frame, said hub member being capable  
23 of sliding between a bottom end and a top end of the pole,

24           said hub member having an upper portion and a lower portion  
25 separate from one another,

1           a ring also having a central aperture also sized to receive  
2           the pole member of the umbrella frame and capable of sliding  
3           between the bottom end and top end of the pole member, said ring  
4           including a first exposed, horizontally oriented surface and a  
5           second exposed horizontally oriented surface,

6           said upper portion of said hub member being adjacent to  
7           said first exposed ring surface and said lower portion of said  
8           hub member being adjacent to said second exposed ring surface in  
9           an assembled orientation, and

10          said ring including a plurality of brackets structured to  
11          pivotally receive an end of a strut member of the umbrella  
12          frame.

13          8. A hub assembly as recited in claim 7 wherein said ring  
14          is of a solid, one piece construction and said brackets are pre-  
15          formed.

16          9. A hub assembly as recited in claim 8 wherein at least  
17          some of said pre-formed brackets of said ring have an interior  
18          surface with a generally "U" shape.

19          10. A hub assembly as recited in claim 8 wherein at least  
20          some of said pre-formed brackets of said ring have an interior  
21          surface with a generally "V" shape.

22          11. A hub assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said ring  
23          includes at least 8 of said pre-formed brackets.

24          12. An umbrella frame comprising:

25               a pole member having a longitudinal axis, a bottom end

1 and a top end, said pole member also having a retaining pin slot  
2 extending therethrough;

3 a main hub member secured about said central pole  
4 member, said main hub member capable of sliding between said  
5 bottom and said top ends, said main hub member also capable of  
6 rotating about the axis of said pole member,

7 said main hub member having an upper portion and a  
8 lower portion and a band secured about a periphery thereof  
9 between said upper and lower portions,

10 a plurality of brackets secured to said band and hub  
11 member to pivotally receive a first end of a strut member of the  
12 umbrella frame,

13 a secondary hub member secured to said pole member  
14 near said pole top end, said secondary hub member also capable  
15 of rotating about said central pole axis,

16 a plurality of rib members pivotally secured to said  
17 secondary hub member,

18 a plurality of strut members each having an inner and  
19 an outer end, said inner ends being pivotally secured to said  
20 main hub member, said outer end of each of said strut members  
21 being pivotally secured to a respective one of said rib members,

22 a pin member extendable within said retaining pin slot  
23 for maintaining said main hub member in position along said pole  
24 member, and

25 means for securing said pin member to said main hub

1 member so as to allow said umbrella frame to rotate  
2 freely about said pole member when said pin member is  
3 placed within said retaining pin slot.